

Kids Summer Reading Suggestions

1. **Hit Me with Music: How to Start, Manage, Record, and Perform with Your Own Rock Band** [DB043650](#)
 - Handbook on organizing and managing one's own rock music group. Powell offers both creative and technical tips on all phases of the music business: using public address systems; mixing live music; utilizing recording studios; promoting a band; negotiating contracts; and avoiding the perils of the business.
2. **The Long Gone Lonesome History of Country Music** [DB065126](#)
 - Presents, in a folksy style, an overview of country music's development in the United States. Discusses the role of radio, gospel music, honky-tonk, rock-a-billy, bluegrass, Jimmie Rodgers's yodeling, cowboys, Grand Ole Opry, dances, and other contributors to the popularity of country music.
3. **The Blues: A Very Short Introduction** [DB085838](#)
 - Musician traces a tradition permeating many forms of music. Blues reflects deep emotion but is not limited to heartache. Examines the broad variety of blues music and performers, the close relationship with jazz and country music, and the influence on rock, pop, and rap.
4. **Fleetwood Mac: Rumours n' Fax** [DB014704](#)
 - A history of the rock group Fleetwood Mac, tracing its complex personal and musical development from the embryonic stages in 1967 to its continuing success in the late 1970s.
5. **Austin Mahone; Jennifer Lawrence; Pharrell Williams; Taylor Swift** [DB081707](#)
 - Four biographies of music and movie stars. Highlights Austin Mahone, Jennifer Lawrence, Pharrell Williams, and Taylor Swift's rises to fame and speculates about their futures. Includes fun facts and quirky things they like.
6. **The Music of Silence** [DB076011](#)
 - Using a third-person narrative, opera singer Bocelli, who as a young boy lost his vision to congenital bilateral glaucoma, describes his childhood in Italy and his interest, education, and career in music. Relates challenges he faced and overcame.
7. **Classical Music in America: A History of its Rise and Fall** [DB060428](#)
 - American music historian and artistic adviser to several orchestras presents a social history of classical music in the United States. Chronicles the rise of the Boston, New York, and Philadelphia orchestras. Horowitz contends that the post-WWI performance-centered approach of American conductors and performers has been disadvantageous to native-born composers.
8. **Hip Hop America** [DB048179](#)
 - Survey of African American rap music. Chronicles the twenty-year rise of hip-hop from the streets of New York City and describes its importance in the multinational industry of the 1990s. Highlights the major players and some of the effects of rap on society.
9. **Blues People: Negro Music in White America** [DB021323](#)
 - A reinterpretation of jazz and blues in light of black American social and economic history. Many anecdotes add to the liveliness of Jones' account, which is flavored by his personal brand of warmth and wit.
10. **Our Band Could Be Your Life: Scenes from the American Indie Underground, 1981-1991** [DB074773](#)
 - Author reconstructs the 1981-1991 punk-influenced underground music scene, which advocated a do-it-yourself aesthetic that revolutionized American music. Profiles thirteen bands, including Black Flag, the Minutemen, Hüsker Dü, the Replacements, Fugazi, and Beat Happening. Discusses the role of independent record labels SST, Dischord, Sub Pop, K, and others.